

Appln No. 09/632,315

Amdt date March 23, 2004

Reply to Office action of October 21, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner has allowed claims 1, 3 and 4, rejected claims 5, 7-13, 37, 38, 46 and 48, and objected to claims 14 and 39. By this amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 14, 39 and 46, has amended independent claims 5 and 37 to include the limitations of allowable claims 14 and 39 respectively, has amended claim 48, and added claims 56-60 to depend on claim 48. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 7-13, 37, 38, 48 and 56-60 are pending, of which claims 1, 5, 37 and 48 are independent. Applicant submits concurrently herewith a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement disclosing U.S. Patent 6,213, 962, which is referenced in the Background section of the present application. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1, 3 and 4 are allowable and now respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider, reexamine and allow all of the pending claims.

The Examiner has objected to claims 14 and 39 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated the claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Applicant has taken the limitations of allowable claim 14 and added them to base claim 5, which should now be allowable. As claims 7, 8, 9 and 10-13 also depend upon claim 5, Applicant submits that the Examiner's rejections of the claims should be withdrawn. Similarly, Applicant has added the limitations of allowable claim 39 to independent claim 37 and submit that this claim, as well as dependent claim 38, are also in condition for allowance.

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The Examiner has rejected claim 48 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Goodman, U.S. Patent 4,586,493, in view of Wisecarver, U.S. Patent 3,661,431. Applicant has amended claim 48 to include further limitations on the claimed biasing member element, in particular, that the "the biasing member includes self adjusting means for maintaining the carriage within the rail, thereby alleviating slack caused by wear to the wheel." This element, in combination with the others recited in the claim, is not disclosed or suggested in the relied upon references. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 48 is in condition for allowance.


Newly added claims 56-60 depend on claim 48 and therefore are also considered allowable.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that pending claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 7-13, 37, 38, 48 and 56-60 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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